MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 JULY 1981

Lebanese Crisis

Jerusalem radio reported that IDF artillery directed heavy fire toward Palestinian positions in southern Lebanon after the Palestinians in the An-Nabatiyah region launched intensive and incessant salvos of Katyusha missiles into northern Israel. Three people were killed and a number of others were injured in the rocket attacks on Nahariyya and Qiryat Shemona, the radio reported, and a UNIFIL spokesman spoke of 120 Katyushas being fired in the shelling, which the radio described as the "heaviest in recent years." The Christian Voice of Hope radio cited the UNIFIL spokesman as stating that another 150 Katyushas fell in the border enclave controlled by Maj Sa'd Haddad's Christian militia. The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio said the Katyusha attack was in retaliation for the recent "brutal Zionist attacks" on Lebanese areas and Palestinian camps. It confirmed that the IDF shelled Palestinian positions in the afternoon and early evening, reporting that the Israeli artillery shelled Sidon, An-Nabatiyah, Tyre and other areas. The Voice of Lebanon radio reported that at least 10 people were wounded by the IDF shelling. According to Jerusalem radio, UNIFIL forces arrested and disarmed eight Palestinian guerrillas who had infiltrated the UN-controlled zone.

Commenting on the Katyusha rocket attack on Israeli settlements in remarks transmitted by IDF on 16 July, Israeli Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Izipori said Israel will have to deal stronger blows at the Palestinian guerrillas to preserve the security of its civilian settlements. He added that the Palestinians will receive "proper retribution" at the appropriate time.

Saudi Arabia-Iraq

According to SPA, King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has decreed that Saudi Arabia will pay for the rebuilding of the Iraqi nuclear reactor destroyed in the recent Israeli air attack. SPA reported that the king had indicated his willingness to do so during his recent meeting in Paris with French President Francois Mitterrand.

Multinational Peacekeeping Force

Jerusalem radio reported that the Cabinet unanimously approved the Sinai multinational force agreement and noted that half the 3,000-strong force provided for in the agreement will consist of U.S. infantry based in Ofira, guaranteeing freedom of passage through the Tiran Strait. The radio said that the multinational force will begin operating in March 1982 and that, according to the agreement, any changes in its responsibility or composition can be made only with the mutual consent of Israel and Egypt.

Iran

IRP Official Interviewed--In an interview with AFP, Islamic Republican Party (IRP) ideologist Hassan Ayat said there will be four candidates in the 24 July presidential election, all of whom are connected with the IRP. He admitted that the one-party option is a negative factor and that there will be no competition. He voiced the opinion that former President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr deserves to be executed but suggested that he is more useful to the revolution alive so that people can see how weak he is and that "he adds up to nothing." Ayat asserted that the current acts of terrorism will be stopped and that the present unrest is no more than "a small pebble in a swimming pool."

Tudeh Party Endorses Raja'i--AFP reported that the Tudeh Party has endorsed the candidacy of Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i for president, asserting that he has been the most faithful to the views of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni and has fought hardest against the enemies of the revolution.

Italian Embassy Protest--According to Rome radio, the Italian Embassy in Tehran has formally protested to the Iranian authorities about revolution guards' entering embassy buildings on 11 July while searching for an opponent of the regime.

Execution of Mojahedin--Tehran radio reported that four Mojahedin-e Khalq members have been executed after being sentenced by the Amol and Esfahan Islamic revolution courts. According to AFP, more than 180 opponents of the regime have now been executed since Bani-Sadr's ouster from the presidency.

Arms Handover Deadline--A statement by the Islamic revolution prosecutor for the armed forces, broadcast by Tehran radio, notified guards of deposed President Bani-Sadr that they have 5 days to hand over their stocks of military equipment to the authorities. Those who fail to surrender their arms within this deadline will be prosecuted.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iraqi Peace Proposals--In a speech at the 15 July Baghdad meeting of the international conference for solidarity with Iraq, broadcast by Baghdad radio, Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz said Iraq is ready to withdraw from Iranian territory as soon as Iran adopts three principles: renunciation of the use of force or the threat to use force and restoration to their legitimate owners of all the legitimate rights that have been usurped by force or through the threat to use force; mutual respect for sovereignty and nonintereference in the internal affairs of other states; freedom of navigation in the Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz. He said Iraq has been calling on the three peace missions to solve the Iraq-Iran dispute on the basis of these principles. He observed, however, that Iran has not made its position clear on the question of Iraq's rights, its stand on the three Arab islands that were occupied by the shah's regime in 1971 and future Iranian-Iraqi relations and the relations between Iran and the other states of the region.

Military Situation--Tehran radio reported that Kermanshah's 81st Armored Division repulsed two Iraqi assaults in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region, capturing 45 Iraqi servicemen in the first engagement. The radio said Iraqi losses in the two clashes were "exceptionally high." London's DAILY TELEGRAPH reported that Libya is sending Iran 190 Soviet-manufactured tanks, half a million artillery shells and 200 guns, including long-range 122-mm and 130-mm pieces. The newspaper viewed this sudden upsurge in supplies as a reflection of Libya's disappointment at the failure of Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Jallud's recent reconciliation mission to Baghdad.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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KABUL OUTLINES PROVISIONS OF AMNESTY DECREE

LD152102 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1730 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] All who lay down their arms will be forgiven. The humane attitude of the Afghan Revolutionary Government to those people who were misled by the propaganda of imperialism has had its full effect. The people, particularly those who were misled, realize that this regime is not a regime of deception, (?misleading) and intimidation. Many misguided people, who were arrested by the security authorities have been freed. Many armed groups have surrendered to the government and laid down their arms. There is very good proof for this claim of ours in a television interview with two people this week. They themselves had laid down their arms. They repented their past acts in their interview and condemned the inhuman actions of the enemies of the revolution and homeland.

The DRA Revolutionary Council, which issued a general amnesty on 18 June, thereby once again renewed its pledge of forgiveness for those who were misled. This decree very clearly applies to all those who surrender themselves voluntarily to the security authorities. Seeking refuge in the arms of the revolution is an act of patriotism. The decree states that defending the values of the Sawr Revolution and the homeland's national independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity is the sacred duty of all the people of Afghanistan. All the people of Afghanistan are brothers and all, with courage and self-sacrifice, fight against the internal and external enemies and against the counterrevolutionaries.

They defend their people's sovereignty with firmness and courage. But unfortunately a small number of individuals have joined the enemy camp as a result of fear, ignorance or brutality and oppression, under the influence of the poisonous propaganda of reaction, imperialism and hegemonism. Under the present conditions, when the revolution has spread its roots among the masses and all the foul deeds of the counterrevolution have become clearly exposed, a number of decent and honorable people of the homeland realized that they had taken up arms against their own brothers, so they tried to seek the right and basic way to compensate for this sin and crime, that is, by joining the ranks of the revolution.

The decree of the Revolutionary Council Presidium was issued for the sake of these decent people whose awareness has returned and who have recognized the friends and enemy of the homeland, in order to give them their rights and return their rights. The second part of the decree states that those personnel of the armed forces who joined the bastion of the enemies as a result of deception or ignorance, under the influence of hostile propaganda, will be forgiven if they return home voluntarily and surrender themselves to the government organs.

The decree instructed the council of ministers to extend necessary help to them when they return and surrender, which indicates the revolutionary humanism, compassion and mercy shown at their return to the bosom of the homeland.

PDPA CENTRAL COMMITTEE POLITBURO MEETS 15 JUL

LD151634 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1600 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Text] The scheduled meeting of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo was held this afternoon at the headquarters of the revolutionary council.

The Politburo considered and discussed various items on the agenda, including the reorganization of the PDPA Central Committee International Relations Department, the speedy development and transformation of agriculture in the DRA and the further improvement of mass media in implementing the DRA's revolutionary stand. The necessary decisions were taken.

TEXT OF KARMAL BANQUET SPEECH IN BRATISLAVA

BK110828 Kabul NEW TIMES in English 28 Jun 81

[Text] Following is the text of speech by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, president of the Revolutionary Council, presidium of the DRA, at a banquet given in his honour by Vasil Bilak, member of the central committee presidium of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and general secretary of Slovak Communist Party, in Bratislava, capital of Slovakia:

Dear Comrades, respected friends,

Allow me to convey to you best message of goodwill and comradeship of the members of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the revolutionary people of Afghanistan, and to express my profound gratitude for the warm and friendly welcome accorded to the Afghan delegation in the beautiful, ancient and proud land of heroic Slovaks and, through you, to all valiant and hospitable Slovak people. I particularly recall at this moment those difficult days when I lived in exile in this fascinating land and even for one moment I was not spared your sincere and comradely love and hospitality.

I shall always cherish the sweet memories of the warm reception and hospitality shown to me by the Slovak communists and people as an inalienable part of the people of flourishing socialist Czechoslovakia, this great friend of revolutionary Afghanistan. The members of the party and state delegation of the DRA who are here on the invitation of the CC of the CZCP and the Government of the CSSR and everywhere were received with warm tides of sincere and revolutionary hospitality. They shall never forget the memories of this visit.

We attach enormous importance to the great friendship existing between our two countries and peoples and the cooperation in all spheres of social, economic and cultural life. This friendship assumed new qualitative dimensions after the victory of the national democratic revolution in our country and entered into the highest stage of a fraternal relations after we did away with the deviation imposed upon the course of our revolutionary march with the beginning of the new stage of revolution.

The Afghan-Czechoslovak friendship is based on unbreakable principles of internationalism and ever expanding all-sided economic, technical and cultural cooperation.

With unremitting and firm conviction in this friendship, our people are following with enormous interest the great achievements attained by the Czechoslovak brothers. We wish you all the success in the implementation of the plans of social and economic development approved recently by the 16th Congress of the Czechoslovak Communist Party. The Afghan people share the feelings of great internationalist pride with your people as their inalienable friends.

The heroic anti-fascist rise-up of 1944 in which esteemed comrade Husak took a leading part is a source of pride not only for Slovaks and Czechoslovakia as a whole but to all freedom-loving, progressive and anti-fascist forces the world over. The people of Afghanistan share this great treasure of global honour.

It is obvious that the PDPA ever since the very dawn of its establishment has struggled for the fulfillment of internationalistic duties. Each member of the PDPA is a true symbol of internationalism. The loyalty to internationalism that emanates from our belief in principledness and its need in the process of revolutionary practice is solidly cemented in the spirit of every party member.

It is an important principle governing the relationship among new type parties of the working class and other revolutionary and progressive parties. It is because of this principle that all ruling parties of fraternal socialist countries,

Parties of the working class in capitalist societies and national liberation movements are standing firmly in defence of our revolution, at the head, the great land of the soviets.

Our people are profoundly thankful for the timely assistance rendered by the great Soviet Union and the presence of its limited contingents of troops which helped to foil all black designs of the enemies of Afghanistan whose attempts were aimed at turning our country into the graveyard of revolutionary forces and heroic members of our party. They wanted to make our land a springboard of aggression and conspiracies against all national liberation movements in the region and against the great Soviet Union. That is why all diabolical forces of reaction, imperialism and hegemonism deployed all their capabilities for undermining our revolution and its great achievements. Today the democratic Afghanistan is facing an undeclared war mercilessly imposed on us by the forces of reaction and imperialism in close collusion with Beijing renegade leaders.

This undeclared war which is a big crime as far as international law is concerned, has assumed expansive dimensions and variable aspects, ranging from exporting professional foreign mercenaries to flooding foreign currency and dispatching armed counter-revolutionary bandits for destroying bridges, roads, hospitals, burning schools, mosques and massacring innocent children, women and old-folk. But our people, realising the true nature of their savage actions, are increasingly rallying around our party and rise for fighting against them.

The revolution is continuing to prove its vitality and efficiency in handling the affairs of the country as the sole possible and logical alternative. Our revolution after its new development phase succeeded in rallying all healthy, principled, national and patriotic forces around the national fatherland front which in itself is the basis of the revolutionary state and a great force of defence behind the people's power.

I assure you dear friends, that our people are with one hand fighting the counterrevolutionary bands and with the other rebuilding the past devastations we have inherited from the former treacherous despots. While constructing the strong foundations of a new Afghanistan we are unceasingly assisted by the great fraternal countries, among them the socialist Czechoslovakia, and practically feel the solidarity of our brother people of Czechoslovakia on our side.

Dear comrades, We will return back to our country with sweet reminiscences of Slovak people, the place which has been an important part of our visit.

Permit me to express on behalf of my comrades in the delegation deep felt gratitudes to the central committee of the Slovak Communist Party and Slovak people for the excellent hospitality and warm welcome we received here.

Long live the Communist Party and people of Slovakia.

Long live strong and flourishing Czechoslovakia.

Long live the great fraternal friendship between our peoples, parties and government.

Long live proletarian internationalism.

RAO LEAVES FOR VISIT TO SOVIET UNION, SWEDEN

BK160657 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Text] External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao left New Delhi for Moscow early today on a brief visit. He will have talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko.

After his Moscow visit, Narasimha Rao will be visiting Stockholm for talks with the Swedish foreign minister.

REDDY VISITS HYDERABAD, COMMENTS ON VIOLENCE

BK151641 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Text] President Sanjiva Reddy had called upon the people to cooperate and assert themselves to end the ugly incidents in Hyderabad. The president, who is in Hyderabad, said in a message that the city is known for its peaceful and warm character and no violent incident had taken place there for a long time. He said it is only a small number of mischievous elements who disturbed the peace and sowed the seed of discord. He expressed the hope that the state government would take all the necessary steps to improve the situation and bring about normalcy.

In the curfew-bound old city area of Hyderabad, there was significant improvement in the situation today. Director General of Police M.B. Narayan Rao told newsmen this evening that incidents of violence were minimal today. There were 10 incidents of stabbing and 1 person died. The police rounded up about 200 antisocial elements today bringing the total to 450.

He said 2,000 additional policemen were inducted to strengthen the security arrangements. The government has ordered the closure of educational institutions in the curfew-bound areas for tomorrow also.

COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE BECOMES OPERATIONAL

BK160752 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Text] In a final maneuver this morning, Indian space scientists put the country's first experimental satellite Apple in its assigned parking slot. It is now geostationary and operational. The satellite is anchored close to 102 degrees east longitude over the Equator nearly 36,000 km above Sumatra, Indonesia. Apple came to its precise position after space scientists fired thrusters for 75 seconds this morning in a final maneuver. Apple Mission Control said the seaband communication transponder--Apple's voice--is switched on and its 90 centimeter antenna is pointed toward Nagpur for beaming at the entire country.

Today's success of Apple has made India the ninth country having its own satellite-made communication network. Apple mission has made a further major breakthrough for Indian space technologists in building and orbiting three excess stabilized geostationary communication satellites.

ARRESTS, EXECUTIONS, UNREST CONTINUE 15 JUL

4 Mojahedin Executed

LD151122 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, following the verdit of Amol and Esfahan Islamic Revolution Courts and approval by the Supreme Judicial Council, four members of the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] were found guilty of waging war against God, rebellion, and being corrupt on earth. After being charged with armed uprising against the Islamic Republic, they were sentenced to death. The sentences have been carried out. The names of those executed are as follows:

Riaj Jalali, son of Qanbar, student at Babulsar school of economics; Habibibollah Arjamandi-Rad, son of Hamid, resident of (Qal'ehkesh), near Amol, student of Tabriz University; 'Ali Reza Mojri, son of Qadam'ali; and Hasan (Zabudardab), son of Hoseyn.

Italians Protest Intrusion

GF151245 Paris AFP in English 1216 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Text] Tehran, 15 Jul (AFP)--The Italian ambassador to Iran, Francesco Mezzalama, protested to Iranian authorities today against an incursion of revolutionary guards into Italian Embassy grounds on Sunday, sources said here.

The guards were pursuing a "counterrevolutionary" who had fled from a neighboring printing shop into the embassy gardens, according to the Iranian Foreign Affairs Ministry. The man was later arrested in the street.

Hospitals Said To Be Full

NC151325 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Text] One of our correspondents reports from Tehran that Khomeyni's regime is continuing its killing and execution of our homeland's freedom fighters and that each day dozens of our compatriots are being killed by the bloodsucking regime. Our correspondent adds that the capital's hospitals are full of wounded and cannot accept new patients. People wounded in Tehran's widespread clashes are bedded in hospital corridors.

Meanwhile, an employee at the newsdesk of the Islamic Republic radio told our correspondent that hospital directors contact the newsdesk every day to request that they broadcast an announcement on the urgent need for blood plasma, but the puppet and (?imposed) director of the radio news desk prevents the broadcast of these announcements so as not to inform the Iranian nation of the horrifying situation prevailing in hospitals and the number of clash victims.

Arrest of Journalist, Doctors

NC151818 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Text] The wave of illegal arrests continues in our chaotic Iran. A Free Voice of Iran correspondent reports that famous journalist Mahhud 'Enayat has also been arrested. According to the same report, 10 doctors of the Shiraz hospital have been arrested by revolution guards. The Iranian commission supporting human rights has strongly protested the arrest of Iranian doctors and writers.

Resistance Movement Statement

NC151809 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Text] Dear listeners: The National Resistance Movement of Iran [NRMI] has published the following statement on the killings in Iran:

The anarchy stemming from the nature of the clerical regime and its internal differences that have reached their limit, and the heroic struggle of the courageous Iranian nation against the tyranny of this regime, are bringing the regime closer to its sinister and wretched fate each day.

In the tempestuous flood started by the Iranian nation to overthrow these blood suckers, the greedy and bloodthirsty clergy, like people who are drowning, are futilely clinging to anything that will save them. They are resorting to any meanness and (?harshness) that is far from human honor.

Among these acts are the provoking of the man on the street to spy and "betray" strugglers of any group as well as the imprisoning, torture and pitiless and countless killing of those arrested. They consider this their canonical duty on the pretext that these people have fought against Islam.

The clerical regime is continuing its pitiless killings on an increasing scale and rate. According to the confession of the veteran and renowe murderer, Sheykh Lajevardi--the Tehran prosecutor, even 9-year-old girls and 14- or 15-year-old boys are not exempted from these killings. In these mass murders by the clergy, the carrying of knives, (?scissors) and even [word indistinct] by the children has become the basis for issuing canonical orders for their death. Don't all these crimes show the extreme weakness and the end of the clergy?

The NRMI expresses its deep hatred and aversion to such a regime, the nature of which is savage injustice. The NRMI calls on all strugglers for Iran's independence and freedom to protest in unisor these inhumane acts and rise up. The NRMI has always protested the killing of compatriots because of their political, racial or religious tendencies and the NRMI will continue to do so in the future.

THe NRMI considers the victory of the nation in this destiny-making struggle, which is aimed at gaining independence and freedom, inevitable. The NRMI is confident that following this play of terror all national elements will rise from their (?heavy sleep) of discord and separation and will soon tighten their ranks to crush all Iran's enemies.

Long live the Iranian nation's united struggle against oppression and tyranny.

[Signed] The National Resistance Movement of Iran

New 'Terrorist' Group

NC151256 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Text] One of our correspondents has reported from the capital that on orders of the fundamentalist leaders of Khomeyni's regime, a group of revolution guards stationed in the 'Abbas Abad garrison in Tehran have been charged with the mission of crushing antiregime demonstrations and marches. These revolution guards wear civilian clothing and are taken to scenes of demonstrations. They attack patriots who are dissatisfied with the medieval policy of the clergy with knives daggers and carpet cutters. The number of people so far killed by these hooligans is very large.

Our correspondent adds that the orders to form this group came after the 28 June explosion at the Islamic party center and also because (?of numerous demonstrations). Sources close to the 'Abbas Abad garrison have stated that the revolution guards who are members of this terrorist group number about 1,700.

Guards in Baluchestan

NC151145 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Text] Since last week the Islamic revolution guards have decreased their activities in Baluchestan Province. One of our correspondents reports from the south that the movement of Baluchis in motor launches from Iran's southeast ports to the sheykhdoms had been strictly controlled by revolution guards and stopped completely 10 days ago. However, since last week revolution guards in the southeast area have gathered in only two forts in Baluchestan Province and only a small number of revolution guards can be seen. The Baluchi tribes and other residents of the southeast, not presently controlled by the revolution guards, have resumed plying their way to and from the emirates and sheykhdoms in the south of the Persian Gulf and are freely trading their goods.

Our correspondent adds that reasons for the decrease in number of revolution guards in the towns and cities of Baluchestan Province are: first, the strong resistance Khomeyni agents face from the courageous Baluchi tribes; and second, the situation in the capital and the street riots in other sensitive cities that warrants the transfer of the revolution guards from Baluchestan to these cities.

AFP on Kurdish Fighting

GF151317 Paris AFP in English 1311 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Text] Tehran, 15 Jul (AFP)--Six revolutionary guards were killed, four wounded and three others are missing after a Kurdish attack on a guards base near Piranshahr last Monday, the daily KEYHAN reported today.

Piranshahr is in Western Azarbayjan Province, where Kurdish rebels control many rural areas along the mountainous borders with Turkey and Iraq.

Baha'is 'Converted'

GF141301 Paris AFP in English 1248 GMT 14 Jul 81

[Text] Tehran, 14 Jul (AFP)--Thirty-one members of the liberal Islamic Baha'i sect in Esfahan Province, central Iran, have been "converted" to orthodoxy after being rounded up and interned, Tehran's daily AZADEGAN reported today, quoting Islamic revolutionary guards in the area.

Among them was Moussa Talebi, described by the newspaper as a "mercenary" and "Zionist evangelist for the Baha'i faith", whose arrest was brought about by a local Islamic divine, Hojjat ol-Eslam Sa'adati.

The accused was said to have had contacts with Israel and had sent money to "a Zionist center in occupied Palestine".

The Baha'is, an off-shoot of Shi'a Muslim belief, was founded in Iran in the 19th century and has its main following in North America and Israel.

More than 60 members of the sect have been executed in Iran since the start of the Islamic revolution in February 1979.

CABINET DISCUSSES DOMESTIC, INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

LD151222 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the Cabinet held a session this morning chaired by the prime minister. During this session, which started with recitations from the Koran, the prime minister spoke about current political issues and praised the outstanding and effective activities of the officers discovering meeting houses of the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] and of those who wage war against God, accomplished with the sincere and ungrudging cooperation of the conscious people of our country.

He also gave a report on the last session of the Supreme Defense Council. He stressed: What goes on at the fronts, without any exaggeration, testifies to the rapturous and triumphant spirit of the forces of Islam, and the broken and dying morale of the forces of the pagan enemy.

Ther the minister of foreign affairs reported on international political issues, especially concerning the Middle East, and recent events in neighboring countries, especially the Gulf sheykdoms. He pointed out: The basic reason for the bombings, grenade throwings and killings by the antipopular hypocrites is that they are trying to place obstacles in the path of the establishment of legal organizations in our country. Now that our conscious people are preparing themselves to elect a president and Majlis deputies, the hypocrites, in cooperation with foreign enemies of the Islamic revolution, are trying to make it seem as though the country does not possess stability and security.

During today's Cabinet session, proposals from the Ministries of Education and Training, Industries and Mines, and Labor, and from the steel industries, the state economic mobilization headquarters and the foundation for war victims were introduced and approved after being fully appraised and debated.

MAJLIS APPROVES BUDGET, ELECTS OFFICIALS

LD151902 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report following this morning's discussions, this afternoon the Majlis had another open session under the chairmanship of Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani. In this session the bill concerning the country's general budget for the year starting 21 March 1981 was approved by 129 votes. The bill, which is comprised of only one article, says that the government budget for the year starting 21 March 1981 ammounts to 3.165 trillion rials in income and other sources of funds, and costs and other expenditures are categorized as follows:

A. General income and other sources of funds amounts to 3.037 trillion rials, and costs and other expenditure from that income amounts to 3.037 trillion rials.

B. The exclusive income of ministries and governmental organizations will amount to 129 billion rials, and costs and other expenditure from those sources will amount to 129 billion rials.

General income and other sources of funds mentioned in Section A of this article is approved and the government is allowed to receive the incomes and other sources of funds as laid down in Section 3 of this law during the year starting 21 March 1981 and to pay the expenses of ministries and governmental organizaions as well as to supply aid and other funds as laid down in the columns of Sections 4, 5, 6 and 7 of this law, within the limits of the receipt of incomes and other sources of funds during the year starting 21 March 1981, in accordance with the distribution of funds and in accordance with the relevant laws, regulations and the notes of this law.

The budgets of profit-making institutions which are affiliated to the government and which will become state institutions during the year starting 21 March will become subject to this law during the remainder of the year after the approval of the Cabinet.

According to this report, elections were also held for the management board of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, which according to the internal regulations of the Majlis should be held annually. As a result of the elections, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani was reelected speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly for another year with 140 votes for and 27 abstentions out of a total of 167 votes. Mr Seyyed Mohammad Musavi Kho'ini, with 120 votes, and Mr Habibollah 'Askar-Oladi Mosalman, with 100 votes, were elected as deputy speakers; Messrs Morteza Katira'i, with 140 votes, 'Ali-Akbar Velayati, with 102 votes, and 'Ali-Reza Yarmohammadi, with 83 votes, were elected members of the supply department; Messrs Asadollah Bayat, Morteza Elvi..., Mohammad 'Ali Sobhan-e Elahi, Ahmad Tavakkoli, 'Ataollah Mahajerani and 'Ali Qa'emi Amiri were elected secretaries.

According to the same report, in this session of the Majlis the report by Section 3 of the Majlis [as heard] concerning the election file of Mr Mohammad Mehdi Purgol, the deputy elected from Bandar-e Anzali, was discussed and it was sent to the research committee.

Today's open session of the Islamic Consultative Assembly ended at 1700. The next open session of the Majlis will be held at 0800 on Sunday, 26 July.

AFP: TUDEH PARTY ENDORSES RAJA'I NOMINATION

GF151423 Paris AFP in English 1413 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Text] Tehran, 15 Jul (AFP)--The Iranian communist party Tudeh today appealed to all its members, friends and the Iranian people to vote for Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the current prime minister, for president on 24 July.

Of the four candidates, the Tudeh said, Mr Raja'i is the one who has been most faithful to the views of the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, and who has fought most against the enemies of the Islamic revolution, especially American imperialism.

The Tudeh recalled that it had supported Mr Raja'i against former President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr's "counterrevolutionary" movement in spite of some policy differences.

The three other candidates for president areall members of the Islamic Republican Party, which nominated Mr Raja'i for the post.

AFP INTERVIEWS IRP OFFICIAL ON ELECTIONS

GF151456 Paris AFP in English 1443 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Text] Tehran, 15 Jul (AFP)--Voters will have four candidates to choose from in the 24 July elections to replace deposed Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr--all of them connected with the ruling Islamic Republic Party (IRP).

Commenting on this decision in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE here today, Hassan Ayat, the party's ideologist, said: "We chose four candidates from the same party as a precaution against there being an exclusive candidate, as was the case in the last (presidential) election."

One of the four candidates, Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, is not in fact an IRP member, but he has the official party nomination and is favorite to win.

Mr Ayat acknowledged that the select one-party option offered to the Iranian electorate was in itself "a negative factor," adding that "at all events there is not going to be any competition."

"Once a system settles down, people become reassured and the abstention rate therefore rises," Mr Ayat said. But two factors could encourage voter turnout: a statement by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni that voting was a religious duty, and the recent "martyrdom" of 74 IRP members in a bomb blast.

Mr Bani-Sadr, Mr Ayat added, "deserves but one verdict--the death sentence."

"But I am against executing him because he is more useful to the revolution alive," he said. "As long as he is alive the people will realize how weak he is and that he adds up to nothing." Citing the precedent of King Faruq, Egypt's last monarch who was deposed in a 1952 military coup led by Col Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir Mr Ayat said: " 'Abd an-Nasir was against executing him (the king) and allowed him to go abroad, and in this way the Faruq scandal was all the greater.

"All dictators are weak and their weakness is better shown if they are allowed to live than if they are executed."

Mr Ayat continued: "Bani-Sadr is nothing but a pawn, and his true face is the face of counterrevolution and imperialism. He belongs with the damned of history--like (Egyptian President Anwar) as-Sadat who betrayed 'Abd an-Nasir and like anyone who takes part in a revolutionary and then betrays it.

He said the present unrest in Iran was no more than "a small pebble in a swimming pool" and unconnected with the departure of Mr Bani-Sadr.

"The terrorism will be very swiftly put down," he said. "The splinter groups and their American bosses imagined they could start a civil war--but they are far from doing that."

REPORTERS INSTRUCTED TO RENEW MAJLIS PRESS CARDS

LD151844 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the Public Relations Office of the Islamic Consultative Assembly has announced the following: All reporters who have previously obtained press cards from the Majlis Public Relations Office to attend the Majlis reporters' box are hereby asked to contact this office to renew their cards. Reporters should contact the Public Relations Office of the Majlis by Sunday, 19 July, at the latest by bringing two 3 x 4 photographs of themselves, copies of birth certificates and one official letter of introduction. It is noted that all previously issued press cards will be invalid after the 23 July and reporters without the new cards will be prevented from entering the Islamic Consultative Assembly building.

TEHRAN SCORES IRAQI PLAN TO LEASE BUBIYAN ISLAND

LD151428 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1105 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Although the remarks of Saddam at-Tikriti, the leader of the fascist Ba'thist regime in Baghdad, about a 99-year lease of Bubiyan Island from Kuwait in order to strengthen Iraq's naval strength in the Persian Gulf, have met with intense opposition from the Kuwaiti officials and,although the plan will have to go a long way before it is translated from words into action, nevertheless it is worth studying as an issue related to past political and diplomatic relations between Iraq and Kuwait.

In the not-too-distant past and even before the position of Hasan al-Bakr, the former leader of Iraq, was occupied by Saddam at-Tikriti, who for the sake of achieving the goals of the Ba'th Party brought the Muslim people of Iraq to its present predicament, Iraq in its political and diplomatic contacts with Kuwait, this small but rich emirate, always regarded it as one of its provinces and even had plans to occupy it. At one point, this project of the Ba'thist regime in Baghdad so attracted the attention of international organizations and that of the Kuwaiti Government that these organizations condemned Iraq for its expansionist and domineering policies. The relations between Iraq and Kuwait deteriorated even to the point of a complete break in relations, and Kuwait always regarded Iraq as its major enemy. What has happened now, after 4 years of the rule of Saddam at-Tikriti and despite all these territorial claims which Iraq had and still has against Kuwait, for the leaders of Baghdad talk of friendship with Kuwait? The answer to this question can be found in the selfsame expansionist policies of Saddam at-Tikriti.

A brief glance at the strategic position of Bubiyan Island and its size shows that the size of this island situated to the northwest of Kuwait is precisely 25 percent of the total area of Kuwait, 16,000 square km. How does Saddam expect the nation or even the regime of Kuwait to lease a quarter of their total area to him? This is ludicrous and unacceptable. Our question for the Kuwaiti nation is: With the acquisition of Bubiyan Island, will not the domineering Ba'thists of Baghdad with their past record of expansionism and their territorial claims against Kuwait pose the greatest danger threatening the territorial integrity of Kuwait? Our next question for the sheykhdoms on the southern shores of the Persian Gulf is whether, with the gradual annexation of the lands belonging to the Arab nations, the Iraqi regime will not raise new claims against the small countries of the region.

The answer to both these questions is of great importance, because the leasing of Bubiyan Island from the Kuwaiti regime by Iraq and the establishment of a military base is a step which strengthens Iraq's military position with its chauvinist, nationalist and anti-Islamic stance and will pave the way for the future ambitions of the regime of Baghdad and its masters. [passage indistinct]

The important thing is that in the event of a military clash in the region, Kuwait, which is situated only a short distance away from Bubiyan Island, will also become involved. This is a crime which Saddam is committing in order to destroy the Islamic friendship and brotherhood of the Muslim brothers in the countries of the region. In fact, Saddam at-Tikriti, who since the beginning of the Islamic Republic of Iran has opposed the slogan of the brotherhood and equality of the Muslims of the world which was raised by the Islamic Republic of Iran, is still trying to create rifts among the Muslim brothers in various countries and, with his illegitimate request for Kuwait, wishes to use the Kuwaiti nation as a toy.

The last point in our analysis is that the leasing of Bubiyan Island by Iraq is not unconnected with the domination of the superpowers over the Persian Gulf. No doubt has remained in the minds of the political observers of the region that by imposing the war upon Iran as well as establishing secret relations with world imperialism under the leadership of America and its satellites, Saddam at-Tikriti created the necessary conditions for the interference of imperialism in the region. Also, with its vast military purchases from all Western countries, in order to continue its aggression against the Muslim Iranian nation, he has fallen completely into the lap of world imperialism.

In the view of these political observers, if Iraq succeeds in leasing Bubiyan Island for 99 years it will completely enter the camp of American and world imperialism. This is not an issue which can be covered up by the propaganda of the Ba'thist regime in Iraq.

JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 569 REPORTS ON FIGHTING

LD151831 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Communique 569 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. As Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic, has graciously said, fighting on the battlefronts of good against evil constitutes the greatest act of worship which any man can do. Armed with the power of faith and their own steadfastness, the combatants of Islam are carrying out this great act of worship. The outcome of their endeavors during the past 24 hours is as follows:

On the Abadan-Darkhovin fronts, an exchange of fire continued. Thanks to our firepower superiority, four enemy ammunition dumps, one light-weapon dump, one concrete bunker and one observation post belonging to the aggressors were destroyed; two fuel tanks in Al-Faw, Iraq, were set on fire. During the same operations, one personnel carrier, three mortar launchers and two machinegun emplacements of Saddam's army were damaged. In the meantime, our heroes fired on and destroyed one enemy observation trench on the bank of the Arvand Rud [Shatt al-'Arab], a number of Iraqi military personnel were either killed or wounded.

On the Mahshahr-Abadan, Darkhovin, and As-Sulaymaniyah fronts, our combatant units opened fire on the artillery, tank and mortar positions of Saddam's forces. Thanks to the intensity of our fire, the enemy artillery fire was silenced and two of their mortar emplacements, one observation post, two tanks and one of their vehicles were totally destroyed.

Yesterday the enemy once again opened artillery fire on parts of Ahvaz and Abadan. As a result, apart from losses in lives, damage was inflicted on those cities' residential areas.

On the Shush and Susangerd fronts, an intense exchange of fire continued between the two sides. Our valiant forces west of Dezful, while defending their positions and opening fire on enemy positions and servicemen, destroyed an enemy machinegun emplacement, silenced enemy fire and killed a number of the aggressors. In the same region, 1 tank belonging to Saddam's army was destroyed on one of the fronts and 10 Iraqi servicemen were either killed or wounded.

In the country's southern cities, five aggressor Iraqi aircraft were forced to flee, thanks to our antiaircraft fire. Three other aggressor aircraft that appeared in Sar Dasht's airspace vanished from the scene thanks to our combatants' defensive fire.

Yesterday the conquerors of Nowsud opened fire on enemy positions in that region and destroyed two personnel carriers, one ammunition-carrying trailer, and a large number of squad trenches and one-man foxholes belonging to the enemies of Islam. During these operations, some 50 Iraqi aggressive servicemen were either killed or wounded.

On 13 July eight of our combatant brothers were martyred on the battlefronts. Three of them were from the Ground Forces, three from the Gendarmerie and two from the police combatants of the Islamic Republic of Iran. May their souls be happy!

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

ASH-SHOHADA MISSILE BASE IN IRAQ DESTROYED

LD131254 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Jul 81

[Summary] "Thanks to the artillery fire of the brave and heroic combatants of Islam this morning, one of the main Iraqi missile bases was completely destroyed.

Our correspondent has a report from Kermanshah, to which we draw your attention":

[Begin recording] The sporadic exchange of heavy- and light-weapon fire continues on the Nowsud, Gilan-e Gharb, Kur Mushi and Darbaluch fronts, the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab-Qasr-e Shirin axis, and on the (Noman), Naftshahr, Kan-e Sakht, Shur-e Shirin, Dehloran and (Salparin) fronts.

Exchange of fire on the Meymak, Konjancham and Mehran fronts is more intense. The Iranian forces are observing enemy movements on all the western fronts.

"According to the Central News Unit correspondent from Kermanshah, this morning the missile base of Ash-Shohada in Iraq was completely destroyed as the result of artillery fire by the pagan-fighters of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Military commanders have put the extent of casualties and damage at 100 percent. The Ash-Shohada base in Iraq, situated between [name indistinct] and Anjirah was one of the most important of Iraq's missile bases and contained substantial military installations. The mercenary regime of Saddam had repeatedly used that base to fire missiles on our residential areas and Muslim nation. The Central News Unit of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kermanshah." [end recording]

LIBYANS REPORTEDLY INCREASING ARMS AID TO IRAN

PM151449 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 15 Jul 81 p 6

[Diplomatic staff report]

[Text] Libya is stepping up its aid to Iran after the failure of its efforts to reach a compromise with the Iraqi Government.

According to reports in the Middle East, a small Libyan naval commando unit has already arrived in the Gulf. It is equipped with remote controlled bombs which can be exploded by radio signals from ships after being planted in shore installations.

Of more long-term significance, the Libyans have also begun a shipment of 190 tanks to Bandar-e Abbas, the naval base in southern Iran. The tanks being sent are all Soviet-manufactured T54, T55 and T62 models, similar to those on which Iranian tank crews have undergone training in Libya.

The first batch of 200 trained tank crews returned to Iran from Libya a month ago.

Besides the heavy equipment being sent by sea, Libya has also begun an airlift of half a million artillery shells. The aim is to have these available once the shipment of 200 guns, including long-range 122mm and 130mm pieces, reaches Bandar-e Abbas.

This sudden upsurge in supplies from Libya to Iran reflects Libyan disappointment at the failure of the reconciliation mission to Baghdad by Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, its deputy prime minister.

It is also an indication that Libya now feels strong enough for near open conflict with Iraq, and that the mullahs ruling in Tehran realise the urgent need of a military victory to bolster their tenuous hold on power.

BRIEFS

SOVIET COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATIVE--According to PARS, the Soviet commercial representative in Iran, accompanied by that country's consul general in Tabriz, met and conferred this morning with Mr Hoseyn Taheri, the governor general of Eastern Azarbayjan. Expressing his eagerness to achieve the exchange of goods required by both countries, the Soviet representative said: We hope that cooperation between the two countries will expand as soon as possible. [Text] [Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Jul 81 LD]